

— no more. There was no disposition to teach the Negro morals. It is in the mass we speak about to-day. What is their condition now? Without any home life or home training except such given to house servants. There were women who preferred to die rather than to yield to the treatment of those who were their superiors. There are those to-day. And the women of my race have been the most abused people in all this world. They have been made the victim of the passions of the bad white man and the bad black man. No race has been subjected to such conditions against which to labor as have these women, and yet that condition obtains too much to-day. We can point to Negro women by the thousands who are as pure as Dr. Massee's cook, who are as pure as you, — as pure as my wife, whom I believe to be as pure as any woman on earth.

Purity of the Home Life

If you of the white race could see the purity of the home life; if you could go into the homes of those who are not clamoring for social equality; if you could go to their homes and see the life that you don't see on the street, and the people who do not get their names into the newspaper, — you would get a very different viewpoint, I am sure. That kind of talk does very well for an illustration. The Negro thought he had the right to do as he pleased, but he saw that there was a better life than that. There are Negroes who are as honest as honesty can make them. They bought the white man's property, but they bought their own property, and, thank God, they have some to-day. The Negro owns farms that amount to millions of dollars.

I want to give you some little information that I received recently. I was in Hampton, Va., a few days ago, to attend a conference; and I found there twenty-four Negro men representing forty Negro institutions and associations, and it was found that they represented \$43,000,000; and also that in the state of Mississippi the Negro paid in \$9,000,000 last year to be used in the state of Mississippi alone; and instead of being fourteen there are thirty-four banks in this country for the Negro, the latest being at Durham. We have a large increase in the banks.

The Negro Business League

In Baltimore, Md., there are over six hundred Negroes holding a Business League, which was the primary source of the conditions which that book General Howard has read portrays.

These Negro enterprises are successful. I could name an association in the South which has a capital stock of \$7,500,000, and two fifths of the stock is owned by Negroes. If you were going to name the Negroes who own property, I can see a stream extending all the way across the state. I carry in that very association, myself, sixty-nine shares, and I thank God that the conditions in the South are such that there are no lines in that particular city. Hearty encouragement is given him to help him. We are increasing the number of homes and the character of the homes. There are homes now, about seven hundred, worth all the way from three hundred dollars to fifteen thousand dollars. There died, in that city, a man who was a slave forty years ago, and he died worth seventy-five thousand dollars.

The Progress That Has Been Made

I can say in conclusion, that what has been done, the progress that has been made, morally and socially and educationally, is a sufficient indication to be an impetus to this Conference. We have an example before us to-day, such as we have never had, for those in the North know that the labor organizations make it impossible for the Negro to be the best he can in the South, but the labor organizations make it possible for him to be the best he can in this section.

As we come closer together, may we not see the other's needs and show the other man the good things? May we not treat him as the love of Jesus Christ shows us? If we do it in that light, if we come to this question in that spirit, if we show the love of God in our example, and as we do things as God gives us the light to see, this problem will be solved.

"The White Man Must Trust the Colored Man."

In the discussion at Clifton of "The Negro as a Free Man," Rev. S. H. Bishop, D.D., of New York, General Agent of the American Institute for Negroes (Episcopal), said: "The Negro is getting away from his old self, and has come to a new era in his life when he is becoming reserved. More careful work must be done in order that he may get the best development that this country offers. We will have to be very patient. The white man must trust the colored man. There must be an element of confidence. The fact that the white man trusts the colored man will help him."